

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Reconsideration and allowance in view of the foregoing amendment and the following remarks are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-7 are now pending.

Claims 1-2 were rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Skinner et al. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

An object of the present invention is to prevent the deformation of the center core from affecting the resin insulating material when the center core is elliptically deformed due to thermal stress thereon.

As originally filed, claim 1 provided an ignition coil wherein a thermal stress relaxing member having a thickness covers the outer circumferential surface of the center core and, further, a resin insulating material fills the gap defined between the cylindrical spool and the thermal stress relaxing member. Claim 1 has been amended above to even more clearly provide that the resin insulating material is provided as a part of the ignition coil in addition to and as a separate component from the thermal stress relaxing member. Amended claim 1 now provides that the resin insulating material provides an electrical insulation between the center core and a coil wound around the cylindrical spool. Thus, the resin insulating material which is filled into the space between the thermal stress relaxing member of the center core and the spool fills that gap and also insulates between the coil wound around the spool and the center core.

Anticipation under Section 102 of the Patent Act requires that a prior art reference disclose every claim element of the claimed invention. See, e.g., Orthokinetics, Inc. v. Safety Travel Chairs, Inc., 806 F.2d 1565, 1574 (Fed. Cir. 1986). While other references may be used to interpret an allegedly anticipating reference, anticipation must be found in a single reference. See, e.g., Studiengesellschaft Kohle,

G.m.b.H. v. Dart Indus., Inc., 726 F.2d 724, 726-27 (Fed. Cir. 1984). The absence of any element of the claim from the cited reference negates anticipation. See, e.g., Structural Rubber Prods. Co. v. Park Rubber Co., 749 F.2d 707, 715 (Fed. Cir. 1984). Anticipation is not shown even if the differences between the claims and the prior art reference are insubstantial and the missing elements could be supplied by the knowledge of one skilled in the art. See, e.g., Structural Rubber Prods., 749 F.2d at 716-17.

Skinner discloses a primary winding or coil 24 disposed directly on layer 22 which is in turn disposed directly on the core. This is explained for example in paragraph 20 of Skinner, describing the cross-section of Figure 2, the function of layer 22 being disclosed as protecting the primary winding 24 from the sharp edges of the laminations 46 comprising the core. Although potting material 26 is illustrated in Figure 2, it is disposed between the primary winding 24 and the secondary winding spool 28.

Thus, in contrast to the invention recited in amended claim 1, Skinner discloses solely an insulation layer 22 provided between the center core 46 and primary winding 24. If layer 22 is construed as corresponding to the claimed "thermal stress relaxing member" of applicant's claim 1, then Skinner does not provide any "resin insulating material" as also claimed. If, on the other hand, the Examiner construes layer 22 as corresponding to the resin insulating material of claim 1, then Skinner does not teach or suggest a thermal stress relaxing layer, as in applicant's claim 1, between layer 22 and center core 46. Thus, Skinner clearly does not teach or suggest the combination recited in applicant's claim 1 wherein there is a gap defined between the insulating material disposed on the core and the cylindrical spool, which gap is filled with insulating resin.

Because Skinner teaches only an insulating layer 22 and does not teach or suggest both a thermal stress relaxing layer of a given thickness and a resin insulating material, it is respectfully submitted that the invention is not anticipated by Skinner. Moreover, Skinner does not teach or suggest that the thickness of his insulation layer

22 as determined according applicant's claim 1. In other words, Skinner does not disclose the basic concept of the present invention such that the Skinner disclosure does not teach the skilled artisan the present invention nor motivate the skilled artisan to modify Skinner so as to produce the invention claimed.

New claims 6 and 7 have been added which further provide that the ignition coil includes first and second coil spools each having a coil mounted to an outer circumferential surface thereof. As noted above, only a single (secondary) spool is provided in Skinner at 28 and the primary coil is wound directly to the insulating layer 22 so that there is no spool on which the primary coil is wound. Thus, whereas the combination recited in claim 1 is not anticipated by nor obvious from Skinner, Skinner also fails to teach or suggest the subject matter of newly added dependent claims 6 and/or 7.

For the reasons advanced above, it is respectfully submitted that the invention claimed is not anticipated by nor obvious from Skinner.

The Examiner has rejected claims 3-4 under 35 USC 103(a) as unpatentable over Skinner et al in view of Oosuka. These claims are submitted to be patentable over Skinner for the reasons advanced above. The Examiner's further reliance on Oosuka does not overcome the deficiencies of Skinner noted above. Indeed, for the reasons advanced above with respect to Skinner, those with ordinary skill in the art would not conceive of the present invention based on the disclosure of Skinner or Oosuka taken alone or in combination. For all the reasons advanced above, it is respectfully submitted that the invention claimed herein is not anticipated by nor obvious from the prior art of record.

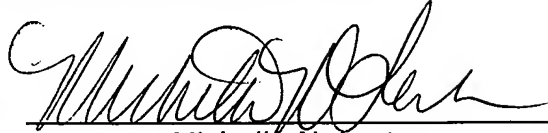
All objections and rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and an early Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

WADA  
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Respectfully submitted,

**NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.**

By:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michelle N. Lester", written over a horizontal line.

Michelle N. Lester  
Reg. No. 32,331

MNL:slj  
901 North Glebe Road, 11th Floor  
Arlington, VA 22203-1808  
Telephone: (703) 816-4000  
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100